GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3848
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000
SETTING UP OF ATOMIC POWER PLANT
RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of nuclear power plants proposed to be set up during the next five years alongwith the capacity of each plant;

(b) if so, whether radio activity is likely to be increased in these region as a result of setting up of these plants;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to lay the survey report on the Table of the House and if so, by what time?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) Proposals for nuclear power development in the Ninth Five Year Plan include commencement of 2x500 MWe plant at Tarapur (TAPP 3&4), and additional 2x220 MWe unit at Kaiga (Kaiga 3&4), besides commissioning of theDetailed Project Report(DPR) for the 2x1000 MWe Nuclear Power Station at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu with Russian assistance and the commencement of work on the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor(PFBR) of 1x500 MWe towards the end of the 9th Plan. Further, as per the present plans, two projects viz. Kaiga-5&6 (2x220 MWe) and RAPP-5&6 (2X500 MWe) are planned to be commenced during 10th Plan period subject to availability of financial resources.

(b) As a result of setting up of the proposed additional units, the incremental radiation dose to the population located at the exclusion zone boundary of the plant is estimated to be only a fraction of the ever present natural background radiation and forms less than the prescribed permitted dose limit specified by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board(AERB).

(c) Environmental Survey Laboratories (ESL) are set up before the start of the units and this laboratory continuouslymonitors radioactivity in the environment up to a radius of 30 KMs around the plant by collecting air, water and food samples. Their observations hitherto have adequately demonstrated that there is no increase in the natural background radiation.

(d) Annual Reports of Environmental Survey Laboratory aresubmitted to the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). Relevant extracts of the radioactive releases from the operating nuclear power stations are published in the annual reports of AERB. This report is in the public domain.